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# THE SIAMESE TWINS :

CHANG AND ENG.

**A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.**

COMPRISING

THE STORY OF THEIR CHILDHOOD IN SIAM; THEIR TRAVELS  
IN AMERICA AND EUROPE; THEIR MARRIAGE AND  
DOMESTIC LIFE; THEIR MISFORTUNES OCCASIONED  
BY THE REBELLION IN THE UNITED STATES;  
THEIR PURPOSED SEPARATION; THEIR  
RECREATIONS, AND A BIT OF  
ROMANCE.

**WITH ILLUSTRATIONS.**

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THE SEAWAY TRUST

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# THE SIAMESE TWINS.

CHANG and ENG, better known as "The Siamese Twins," have doubtless as wide a notoriety as has ever been obtained by a human being. In the entire civilized world it may be doubted if a single household of moderate intelligence could be entered where Chang and Eng, or, at least, "The Siamese Twins," are not familiar words. Of the strange freaks of nature, they are the most strange. Of the objects which powerfully excite the curiosity of man, they, of Nature's oddities, have the most intensely arrested the attention of the world. They furnish the only instance in which two human beings, bound together by a living ligament, have reached the years of mature manhood. For about sixty years each has, for every instant of time, been by the other's side. Each is a husband, and the head of a large family.

## TWO BODIES: ARE THEY TWO MEN?

Numerically they are two; but with men of science it is a disputed point, if there is more than one *person*! Is it one *man* in two bodies, with a double set of limbs and organs? Is there but one life, one responsible will, one accountable being, only with double bodies, double heads, and a double set of arms and legs? Or, are they really two *men*—each as distinct from the other as Smith from Brown, with the exception of that one mysterious bond? Such strange questions were never conceived in regard to any other mortal or mortals. Yet they are questions which men of science would give much for the privilege of being able to solve.

## EVEN FACTS SEEMINGLY DISAGREE.

The facts in regard to the vital relations of Chang and Eng, about which there is no chance for doubt or question, are seemingly of a contradictory character. On the supposition that they are but one person using two bodies, it would follow that a scratch of a pin on the arm of Chang would be felt by Eng. But as a matter of fact,





physical contact is felt only by the body which experiences the contact. Yet if Chang is ill, Eng suffers in like manner! Sometimes they have had decided differences of feeling and opinion; yet not unfrequently they have the same thought, volition, and purpose. A carefully prepared article, written by a master in science, appeared in Silliman's Journal for 1830. This reliable authority will assure the reader that in respiration, circulation, hours for sleep, moods of joy, anger, and pain, Chang and Eng seem to be one. Yet a tooth extracted from Chang does not give Eng the quiver of pain. Here are two sets of undoubted facts; but the one set seems to deny the other set! If the disagreement of doctors puts the non-professional to silence, what can even doctors say, when the admitted facts are seemingly at variance?

There is a fact in regard to the sensibility of the connecting flesh, that puzzles the physiologist. That band on the upper side has a length of five inches, on the lower side of four inches; is about three inches in width, and two in thickness. Now here is the strange fact: pressure on the middle of that band is equally felt by both—seeming to say that there is essentially but one person; pressure, however, at any distance from the centre, is felt only by the one nearest the point of pressure—seeming to say there are two persons! Thus, at every turn, the attempt to solve the mystery is baffled. Nature has had its freak in Chang and Eng; and thus far it keeps up the freak with those who have sought to unfold the mystery.

### CAN THEY BE SEPARATED?

The question whether Surgical Skill can, without harm to the subjects, sever the band, has ever been a matter of deep interest to Chang and Eng, of scientific importance to the physiologist, and of rational curiosity to the world. The obvious disadvantages of such constant companionship have made them eager to profit by such treatment, if the probability of a successful issue could be made to appear strong. But the doubt has thus far deterred them from seeking the experiment, and the surgical profession from seeking the practice.

But Chang and Eng are now nearly sixty years of age. If they are really two persons as well as two bodies, and if their physical distinction is such that the death of the one does not involve the death of the other, there is, as every one foresees, a shocking contingency at no very remote future. That a living man shall, even for a moment, find himself linked to a lifeless body, is a possibility on which the mind refuses to dwell. Every reader can understand why Chang and Eng feel that the question of separation is one that must be met. If it is a possibility, its much longer postponement would be a disgrace to the College of Surgeons. If practicable, the skillful hand that shall enable Chang and Eng to shake hands and bid each other a good night—each in health and strength—going his different way,—the hand which does



this, achieves an immortality of fame, and makes a reputation that insures many fortunes.

### WHERE THEY WERE BORN.

An interest would attach to any land which had given to the world this couple of marvellous curiosity. But the Kingdom of Siam has an interest in and of itself. Siam of itself pays for study. Its vast and fertile plain, walled in on all sides, except the South, by mountain chains of vast elevation, extending to the Himalayas, owes its existence and its richness to the same cause.

### SIAM THE EGYPT OF ASIA.

The River Menam (sometimes spelled "Manaam," the generic name for river), flowing for near a thousand miles through that central region, is its Nile—it has made the plain. Like the Nile, the Menam has its annual inundation, when it brings from the mountainous regions of the North, the rich alluvium, which spread over the surface makes Siam even more fertile than "the land of leeks, onions and melons," in Africa. In the month of August the waters of the Menam rise to a height of six feet above the average level. Between no other two countries are there such striking parallels as between Siam and Egypt. We ought to add, that, as by three channels or mouths, the Nile empties into the Mediterranean, so by three channels does the Menam find its way into the waters of the Chinese Sea.

### THE CLIMATE.

To wonderful fertility of soil we must add that Siam has a singularly quickening climate. Siam is in the equatorial regions. In the coldest days the mercury does not get below 70° of Fahrenheit. Yet, despite this equatorial sun, such are the counteracting influences of breezes from the mountains, that the heat seldom rises higher than to 85°. The abundant rains in the wet season and consequent humidity of the atmosphere, sometimes bring ague and cholera. In other regards the climate is healthy. Cotton, spice, and especially pepper, are among its staples—the joint products of an Egyptian soil, and an equatorial sun.

In other respects, Siam is not like Egypt. It was not known to history prior to 700 of the Christian era. Nor was much known of the country before A.D. 1612, in which year an English ship first sailed up its great river. If it is true that "happy is the nation whose annals are dry," Siam has been a happy nation. It has indeed had its wars and civil tumults; but the current of its history has generally been equable. In this the Siamese are true Mongolians.

## THE NAVIGATION.

To a European or an American entering the Gulf of Siam, and approaching the mouth of the Menam, a singularly dazzling spectacle presents itself. This is in the arrival and departure of junks, the medium of the carrying trade between Siam and China. Some seasons as many as a hundred and fifty junks of the largest size arrive at Bunkok (the London of Siam), bringing immense numbers of Chinese emigrants and a variety of Chinese merchandise, and taking, as return cargo, raw cotton and silk, and also sugar, oil, elephants' teeth, ivory, logwood, and other commodities. These junks are of a very large size, and make but one voyage a year, which they always perform when the monsoon is favorable. Every junk is provided with a large gong, instead of a bell, and whenever there is an arrival or departure of a junk, it is the custom for those at anchor to show their respect by firing off crackers and sounding their gongs. When there are a great number of vessels at anchor, the noise is quite astounding.

## A STRANGE CUSTOM.

A very singular custom prevails in regard to these junks. A female is never allowed to make a passage in a junk. In many cases in which females have got on board disguised in male attire, and have afterwards been discovered, they have invariably been thrown overboard.

## A SUPERSTITION.

The building of a junk is an affair of great moment, and attended with much form and great attention to "times and seasons;" the keel must be laid on a particular day, at a particular hour; and the tree which is to form the mast must also be cut at a particular time. This superstitious adherence to particular days and hours appears very absurd. But Chang and Eng have seen things equally ridiculous in the "civilized" world. On one occasion they stopped for a few hours at the house of a family of Welsh descent, in one of the charming valleys of the Alleghany Mountains, in Pennsylvania, and observing all the family (including a venerable old lady, upwards of eighty years of age) very busily employed in planting potatoes during a very severe rain-storm, they asked why the planters did not leave off work until the storm had ended? The old lady replied with the utmost gravity, that they were very anxious to finish the planting during the dark of the moon! And on another occasion, the twins enquired of a Dutchman in Ohio why the shingles on his house presented so very rough an appearance; and the answer of the Dutchman was, that the man who put on the shingles, forgetting to look at the almanac, had done the work at the most unlucky period of the moon's age!

## RELIGION OF SIAM

The religion of the Siamese is a species of Buddhism. Its moral code is very high. The Siamese are forbidden to kill not simply man, but even beasts and insects. Those who are curious to trace a connection between belief and practice will at once be impressed by the circumstance that birds and beasts, which usually flee at the approach of man, in Siam are as fearless as the tamest of domesticated brutes. The Siamese, under the sway of their religion, hesitate to take even the life of plants or seeds. They are also forbidden moral uncleanness, falsehood, and theft. In these regards the people of Siam are like other people—preaching better than they practice. “Total abstinence from all that intoxicates” is a part of the Siamese code. Siam is ahead of New England in the matter of a Prohibitory Law! It obeys the law with about the same degree of fidelity. They burn their dead. The White Elephant is worshipped as the receptacle of a soul for advance in the life of heaven.

## THE GOVERNMENT.

The Government of Siam is that of absolute despotism. There are two Kings—a Chief and his Assistant. The veneration of the people for the Ruler is profound. Had Chang and Eng remained in Siam, they would have paid almost divine honors to their sovereign; would have crouched before him; have crawled into his presence; and, calling themselves the most worthless and insignificant of creatures, have addressed their King as the “Sacred Lord of Lives;” as the “Owner of All;” as the “Most Infallible and Exalted.” And Chang and Eng would have been compelled to give to the King a third of their time. In this regard, they prefer the government of a constitutional monarchy, or of a republic.

## PERSONAL DECORATIONS.

The Siamese have curious customs in regard to personal decoration. Had Chang and Eng remained in their native land, they would have stained their teeth black, have plucked the beard from their faces, and have shaved the hair from their heads, with the exception of a tuft about two inches in height, rising straight from the top of the crown. But their wives, in accordance with the female custom, would have cut their hair close instead of shaving, and covered it with a skin.

## SIAMESE WIVES.

Another custom, to which the present wives of Chang and Eng would probably raise serious objections, yet to which they would have



cheerfully conformed had they been born in Siam and always living there, is worthy of mention. The Siamese wife is a slave to her husband. It is seldom she goes with him abroad, but when that favor is granted, she walks at some distance in the rear. She does not eat with him, but, crouched on knees and elbows, serves him at the table. This is the wife's condition among the aristocracy. In the humbler orders, her subjection is not so abject; and not unfrequently she is treated with affection. The ruling classes have a plurality of wives. Some have a number that would make even Brigham Young stare in wonder. But among the common people, it is seldom that one man has more than one wife. Where there is more than one, the wife first married is mistress of the household.

### THEIR NATIVE TOWN.

Not far from the mouth of the Menam, where it empties directly into the Gulf of Siam, is the town of Meklong. It is situated near a small river of the same name—a river which in the rainy season opens Siam to the Kingdom of Burmah. This town, of about thirteen thousand inhabitants, gave the world Chang and Eng. The Twins were born in Meklong, in the year A. D. 1811. The monstrosity of a ligament of flesh uniting the body of one near the end of the breast-bone, to a corresponding place in the body of the other, at once called attention to the infants. The mother suffered no unusual pain. Her strange progeny lived with her till they were eighteen years of age—the father having died when they were eight years old. In the year 1829, an enterprising American, Captain Coffin, conceived the notion of taking them to the United States.

An agreement was entered into with the mother, whereby, within a period of less than two years, they should be returned to their native home. They were then taken by the American navigator to the land which for forty years has been their home—the point of departure and return in their numerous and extended visits to all parts of the civilized world. It was by their own option that they did not return to Siam.

A biographical sketch of Chang and Eng comprises, for the most part, the particulars of their numerous journeys, and their domestic life in North Carolina. Yet their history in Siam, up to the date of their departure for America, has not a few interesting particulars.

### THEIR LIFE IN SIAM.

We have had occasion to say that they were born in 1811. This was in the month of May. The mother had in all nine children, of whom four were older, and three younger, than Chang and Eng; but none others were twins, and only two remained alive when Chang and Eng left home—one brother and one sister. When their father died,

Chang and Eng were only eight years of age. Very soon after they began to assist in the support of their mother, who had been left in straightened circumstances, owing to the long illness of their father. The first business in which they embarked was the manufacturing of cocoa-nut oil, which is such a very laborious employment that they found their strength unequal to it, and were compelled to relinquish it.

### BECOME PEDDLERS.

They next engaged in peddling. This business is carried on in Siam almost as extensively as in the United States, with this difference, however, that whereas the Yankee peddler has to provide a wagon and a pair of horses, the Siamese has only to procure a boat and pair of oars. Peddlars in Siam are compelled to take out a license and pay a tax; but Chang and Eng were exempted by special favor. They say they were pretty keen at striking a bargain, and seem to think that the roving merchants of Siam are not a whit behind their brothers of Connecticut.

### TRY THE DUCK AND EGG BUSINESS.

Not altogether relishing the peddling trade, Chang and Eng next turned their attention to the rearing of young ducks and dealing in eggs. The favorite food of ducks, in Siam, is a small shell-fish, for a supply of which Chang and Eng went a considerable distance to sea, generally twice a week, and sometimes oftener. Ever since then they have been very much attached to the sea, enjoy a voyage, and never recollect having been in the least sea-sick. The Twins remained in the duck and egg trade until their departure for the United States, when they left a very flourishing business to their brother.

### AS CURIOSITIES IN SIAM.

Chang and Eng excited a good deal of curiosity in Siam, and many persons called at their father's house to see them, especially when they were very young. The King, having signified a desire to see them, they went to Bunkok, and saw not only his majesty, but also his seven hundred wives, some of whom made presents to the Twins, as did likewise the King.

### IN AMERICA.

Chang and Eng left Siam on the 1st April, 1829, under the protection of Captain Coffin, of the American ship *Sachem*. At the time neither their mother nor they thought it likely that they would be absent longer than 18 or 20 months. They arrived at Newburyport on the 16th of August following, going directly to Boston. They remained in the United States until the middle of October, during

which time they visited Providence, Philadelphia, and New York, everywhere exciting the most lively interest.

### THEY GO TO LONDON.

Before making a more extended tour in the New World, the curiosity in regard to them was so strong in England, that it was deemed expedient not to defer a visit to that country. Accordingly, they embarked for England, on board the ship Robert Edwards, Captain Sherburne, and were landed at Dartmouth, in Devonshire, in twenty-seven days. The ship was bound to London, and after having landed a great many of her passengers, she was a longer time going from Dartmouth to London than she had been from New York to Dartmouth, having encountered a succession of severe gales in the British Channel, and lost anchors and cables. Having arrived in the Great Metropolis on the 19th of November, the Twins were visited on the 24th, at the Egyptian Hall, in Piccadilly, by a great number of medical and scientific men, as well as by throngs led only by curiosity.

### TESTIMONIALS.

The strange novelty very naturally excited the wonderment of the world. It seemed an impossibility in the nature of things that two human beings could be so strangely related. The non-scientific could hardly credit their senses. The public, at that time, seemed to need some proof of the reality of what their own eyes saw! And men eminent for scientific wisdom were more than willing to assure the public, that in regard to Chang and Eng, neither their eyes nor their fingers had deceived them. Accordingly, nearly the whole College of Surgeons investigated the peculiarity of the Twins, and sent forth a document, which, though not needed for the same purpose now, is worthy of insertion here, as a strange event in the career of the Twins from Siam. The document was signed by the Hon. Leigh Thomas, President of the Royal College of Surgeons; by the world-renowned Surgeon, Astley Cooper; by Thomas Copeland, B. C. Brodie, and thirty other Surgeons and Physiologists, hardly less distinguished. It read as follows:

“EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY, Nov. 24th, 1829.

“CHANG and ENG—two youths born in the kingdom of Siam, whose bodies are, by a wonderful caprice of nature, united together as one—arrived in London on Thursday, November 19th, and on Tuesday, 24th, were submitted to the examination of the most eminent professors of Surgery and Medicine of the Metropolis, as well as some other gentlemen of scientific and literary pursuits, in order that through their report (if favorable) the public may be assured that the projected exhibition of these remarkable and interesting youths is in no respect deceptive; and, further, that there is nothing whatever offensive to



delicacy in the said exhibition. These youths have passed their eighteenth year, are in possession of full health and extraordinary bodily strength; display all the faculties of the mind in their fullest extent; and seem in fact in every respect to enjoy a state of perfect happiness and contentment. The youths, having been thus introduced to the British Public, were visited on that day by the following distinguished persons, among many others, who testified their entire approbation of the exhibition, and obligingly gave it the sanction of their names."

The celebrated Joshua Brookes voluntarily sent forth the following: "Having seen and examined the two Siamese youths, Chang and Eng, I have great pleasure in affirming they constitute a most extraordinary *Lusus Naturæ*, the first instance I have ever seen of a double living child; they being totally devoid of deception, afford a very interesting spectacle, and they are highly deserving of public patronage."

### A TECHNICAL STATEMENT.

A paper was read before the Royal Society, London, by G. B. Bolton, Esq., making a statement, in the phraseology of the profession, in regard to the ligament binding Chang and Eng together. (Though comparatively few readers can interpret the technical terms of this paper, we insert here a few extracts, as evincing the interest excited in the mind of the learned world by the presence of the Twins :) "The band of union is formed in the following manner: At the lowest part of the sternum of each boy, the ensiform cartilage is bent upwards and forwards, meeting the other in the middle of the upper part of the band, where moveable joints exist, which admit of vertical as well as lateral motion, each junction appearing to be connected by ligamentous structures. It is difficult to define precisely where the respective cartilages from each body meet, and whether a slip from one of the cartilages of the false ribs enters into the structure of these parts; but it is certain that the ensiform cartilages have assumed an extended and altered figure. The cartilaginous portion occupies the upper region of the band. The outline of the band is convex above and arched below. Under the cartilage, while they stand in their ordinary posture, are large hernial sacs, opening into each abdomen, and into which, on coughing, congenital herniæ are forced, probably in each boy formed by a transverse portion of the arch of the colon: generally, however, and under ordinary circumstances, these herniæ are not apparent. On the lower edge of the band, exactly in the centre, is situated the umbilicus, or navel, there being but ONE in common between them. Whether there is a communication between the two abdominal cavities, or a distinct peritoneal sac, belonging to each hernia, is by no means obvious.

### TOUR THROUGH ENGLAND.

The fact that Chang and Eng remained in London seven months will indicate the profound interest felt in them in the metropolis.

After this long sojourn, they took a journey through England, stopping at Windsor, Reading, Oxford, Cheltenham, Gloucester, Bath, Bristol, Worcester, Birmingham, and Liverpool. Thence they went to Glasgow, and from Glasgow to Edinburgh, Dundee, and Perth. Returning once more to Glasgow, they took passage to Belfast, and went thence to Dublin. They staid two weeks in Dublin, and then crossed to Liverpool, from which place they went to Chester, Manchester, Leeds, York, Sheffield, Birmingham, and thence to London once more. They remained in the Metropolis a few weeks, and having embarked at Portsmouth, on board the *Cambria*, Captain Moor, they landed at New York on the 4th of March, 1831, to renew their career in the New World.

### TOUR THROUGH THE UNITED STATES.

The Twins excited no less interest in America than in England. They found eager crowds awaiting them in every principal city and town in every one of the States. In making this tour, several times repeated, they frequently traveled in their own conveyance, which was much more pleasant for them, and enabled them not only to journey in any direction which was most agreeable to themselves, but also to stop at several places which they would not otherwise have had it in their power to visit. We may add, in this connection, that they also made the tour of the British Provinces as in America, everywhere exciting a most profound interest.

### THEY GO TO PARIS.

The continent of Europe was not behind England or America in its desire to welcome the strangest novelty in the form of man the world had yet seen. Accordingly, in the year 1835, they went to Paris, and remained in that city several months, during which time they enjoyed themselves very much—having seen as many of the public places as they could visit with comfort and convenience to themselves. They went twice to the Garden of Plants, in which is a splendid museum, a cabinet of comparative anatomy, containing a collection of sketches of various animals, from the mouse to the elephant, and also a very extensive and well-arranged collection of living beasts and birds, of all which the giraffe seemed to attract most attention. They also visited the celebrated manufactory of china, at Sevres; the palace and gardens of St. Cloud; the Church of the Magdalen; the Royal Mint; the Grand Opera, and they drove out repeatedly in the Champs Elysees, and Bois de Boulogne. In all their traveling they went to see as well as to be seen.

### BRUSSELS AND ANTWERP.

From Paris they went to Brussels, and there visited the palace which a few years ago belonged to the Prince of Orange. From

Brussels the Twins went to Antwerp, which is a very strongly-fortified city, and has been celebrated in former times for the number of sieges it has stood. Antwerp is also famous for the number of painters who reside there, and for its museum, in which are exhibited specimens of paintings, beginning with the first attempts made in the infancy of the art, and ending with the elaborate and highly-finished works of living artists. The artists were interested in the Twins, and the Twins were interested in the artists. The Cathedral of Notre Dame is one of the noblest structures on the continent of Europe. It is 500 feet long, 230 feet wide, and the spire, which is remarkable for the beauty of its architecture, is nearly 500 feet in height. The Twins climbed to the top of it, but deemed the view very uninteresting, and scarcely worth the trouble of the ascent.

### IN ROTTERDAM.

From Antwerp Chang and Eng went to Rotterdam, after having encountered much annoyance and delay, owing to the vexatious police regulations between the two countries, which rendered it necessary to procure from the Dutch government a special permission to enter Holland, and also a permission from the Belgian government to leave Belgium. Having obtained the requisite papers (as they supposed) they started for Rotterdam; but when they reached the Belgian frontier, and showed their passports to the commanding officer, they were informed that they could not pass the boundary, as their passport had not the signature of the chief of the office of public safety, which was indispensable. It was in vain that the Twins reasoned with him, stating that they had not come into Belgium with any traitorous design, and that allowing them to pass could not possibly endanger the safety of the state; and also stating how they had been misinformed by the passport officer at Antwerp, who assured them that their papers were correct. But to all this the officer replied civilly, but firmly, that he could not possibly take the responsibility of letting any one pass whose passport had not the signature of Monsieur François. Finally, they were obliged to go back again to Brussels, at a considerable loss of time and patience, not to say a word about the expense. Having obtained the requisite signature, they made a fresh start, and were then in considerable perplexity, until they had ascertained whether their Dutch passport was right. This, fortunately, was the case, and they at length reached Rotterdam, having passed through Breda and Dortrecht.

### TWELVE STATEMENTS.

As soon as they had alighted at the hotel at Rotterdam, a paper was put before them to be filled up and sent to the police; the blanks having the following headings in the Dutch, French and English languages.



1st. The surname and christian name of the traveler. 2d. His age. 3d. His profession. 4th. Place of nativity. 5th. Usual place of abode. 6th. Whence he comes. 7th. Where he is going. 8th. To whom he is known in the place. 9th. Where he slept last night. 10th. The object of his journey. 11th. How long he intends to remain; and the 12th column is for general observations!

### RETURN TO AMERICA.

Having completed their Dutch tour, visiting the Hague and Amsterdam, they took passage again for the land they had pitched upon as their home. Learning that an American brig, the *Francia*, Captain Edwards, was preparing to sail for New York, they engaged passage, and passing through the ship canal, had an opportunity of seeing that fine work. They landed at New York on the 7th of August, 1836, and were forcibly struck with the difference of bustle and business at New York, when contrasted with the quiet and stillness which prevail at Amsterdam.

### MARRIAGE AND PRIVATE LIFE.

Having realized a competence, Chang and Eng concluded to retire to the enjoyments of private and domestic life. An attachment between them and the daughters of a clergyman of North Carolina led to marriage. November 13, 1842, Miss Maria Greenwood became Mrs. Maria Chang; and Miss Catharine Greenwood became Mrs. Catharine Eng.



Their home was selected in Mount Airy, in the County of Surry, State of North Carolina. From that day to this, Mount Airy has been to them a happy home—happy that is, in every domestic relation.

### THEIR CHILDREN.

To Chang and Maria have been born six daughters and three sons, in the following order of age: Josephine, Christopher, Nancy, Mary

At Victoria, Louise, Albert, Budd, and Lizzie. To Eng and Catharine have been born three daughters and six sons, in the following order: Catharine, Stephen Decatur, James Montgomery, Patrick Henry, William Oliver, Frederic Marshall, Rosella, Georgianna, and Robert.

## TWO HOMES.

We have said that their home was happy. There is one exception to this, in that the two sets of children did not always agree. It is no uncommon thing for cousins to "fall out." For years there was but one house, as there was but one plantation. It was deemed best to have two houses—Mrs. Catharine, with her children, to be the mistress of the one, and Mrs. Maria, with her children, to be the mistress of the other. But as the Twins could not conveniently fall into this arrangement, they compromised: Chang's house being their home for three successive days; Eng's house their home for the three days next succeeding, and so alternately.

## PERSONAL MANNERS.

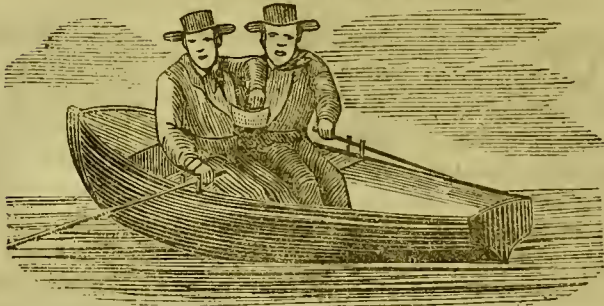
Chang and Eng, having married American wives and made America their home, had the good sense to fall in with American customs. They adopted the American style of dress in everything. At first they made an exception in regard to their hair, which was three feet in length, and was worn by them braided in the Chinese style, in doing which, in washing, dressing, or any other occupation, they required no assistance, each acting for himself with as perfect ease as would one individual. While in bed they are not confined to any particular position, but rest on either side, as may best suit their convenience, generally, however, with their faces toward each other. They usually sleep quite soundly, and almost invariably awake at the same moment. They seldom speak one to the other; but this is not very surprising, when it is recollected that they have always been placed in the same circumstances, and that their sphere of observation has been bounded by the same limits. They play chess and draughts tolerably well, but it affords them no amusement to play these games in opposition to each other. They have learned to read and write sufficiently to amuse themselves during their hours of relaxation. They can drive a carriage with perfect ease, and prefer taking exercise in a gig to any other mode of conveyance; and although they have been upset very often, yet they have never received the least hurt. Their health has been almost uniformly good.

## THEIR RECREATIONS.

They are fond of innocent sports. They can run a short distance with considerable speed.



They can handle the gun with great skill.

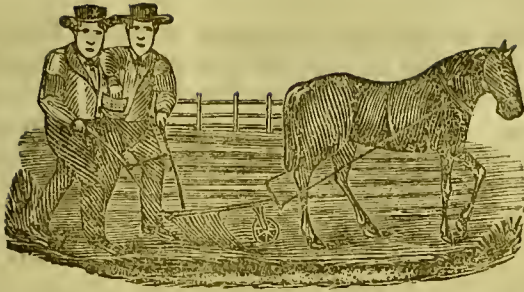


They row with vigor and ease.



They handle the axe, and fell trees without difficulty.





They love the plough.



They have a strong passion for fishing.

As matter of exercise and pleasure, they shingled the barn on their plantation, and did the work well.

### THEIR HUMOR.

We could fill pages with anecdotes illustrative of their good nature, and relish for harmless jokes. One may suffice. A few years since, they were traveling over a Western railroad. They purposely covered all but their heads with their cloak. The conductor appeared. Chang handed *his* ticket. Eng declined, and then the following dialogue :

*Conductor*—"Your ticket, sir."

*Eng*—"I have no ticket."

*Conductor*—"Pay, or leave the car."

*Eng*—"I won't pay; but I will get out if my brother does."

*Chang*—"I have paid, and don't mean to get out."

*Eng*—"Then *I* won't get out."

*Conductor*—"Come, no trifling; you pay, or I'll put you out."

*Eng*—"If you put me out, you put my brother out."

*Conductor*—"I have nothing to do with your 'brother,' but I shall put *you* out."

The conductor called the brakeman, a stout Dutchman. As he approached to lay hands on the stubborn passenger, the Twins dropped the cloak, much to the horror of the Dutchman, who found the man he was to "put out" "*stuck in*" (as he expressed it) to the man he was *not* to put out! Eng paid, and all parties had their laugh.

## THE WAR OF REBELLION.

Chang and Eng thrived as North Carolina planters till the breaking out of the great war. Previous to this, they had sold the bulk of their landed estate for notes secured by mortgage. But the Confederate Government made its paper money a "legal tender." With this worthless stuff the mortgage was canceled, and Chang and Eng paid—to them a total loss. They had large property in slaves,—the Emancipation Proclamation swept away this. Then the two contending armies found in their neighborhood territory for mutual ravage. In the aggregate result, they have lost their fortune, and are compelled once more to appear in public life. They have concluded to give a series of entertainments, which will be conducted on the same plan as those heretofore given with such marked success before the crowned heads and nobility of France, Germany, and England, where their series created a furore equaled only by the immense crowds who thronged to witness them in all the principal cities of the United States.

The rest of their history they are now to make. That another fortune awaits them we cannot doubt. The public will have something more than curiosity in regard to their prospective separation. May the surgeon's skill be equal to the problem.

THE SHANGHAI TWINE



CHANG AND SING



# THE SIAMESE TWINS.



**CHANG AND ENG.**









